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**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

BIENHAUS et al.

Art Unit: 1634

Application No.: 09/558,038

Examiner: Arun Chakrabarti

Filed: April 26, 2000

Attorney Dkt. No.: 101614-00001

For: SYSTEM FOR RELEASING AND ISOLATING NUCLEIC ACIDS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Director of the U.S. PTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 14, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information items listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item is attached. Applicants understand that this information disclosure statement and the attached information items will be placed in the application file, but may not be considered by the Patent Office pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(i).

Applicants understand that these references may not have been considered in determining the patentability of the above-identified patent. However, Applicants believe that none of these references are material to the patent claims.

In particular, Japanese Patent Application No. JP/04/349,892 is believed to be immaterial to the patentability of the present claims. Meanwhile, WO 94/20858 is believed to be cumulative to U.S. Patent No. 5,536475, which was discussed during prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: PTO-1449

FORM PTO-1449	APR 14 2004	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 101614-00001	SERIAL NO. 09/558,038
<b>LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT BIENHAUS et al.		
		FILING DATE April 26, 2000	GROUP 1634	

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO PART.
AG	WO 94/20858	September 15, 1994	Great Britain			X
AH	JP 4-349892	December 12, 1992	Japan			X
AI						
AJ						
AK						
AL						

**OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

AM	Patent Abstracts of Japan, Abstract of 04-349892 dated December 12, 1992.
AN	
AO	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.